CLAIMS

What is claimed as new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent of the United States is

1.   A mechanism for configuring handheld devices, comprising:

a website engine, for receiving user input;

a build-to-order configuration engine; for communicating with developers, coordinating software licensing, arranging software downloads and preventing conflicts;

a database engine, for managing executable code and data responsive to said configuration engine, and

a loading station; for performing the actual downloads;

wherein said loading station loads said handheld device based on user input received through said website engine and conveyed to said database and build-to-order configuration engines.

2.   The mechanism of claim 1, wherein said configuration engine communicates automatically with said developers using a registration module.

3.   The mechanism of claim 2, wherein said registration module communicates with said developers using either pooled, generated, or dynamically requested communications.

4.   The mechanism of claim 1, wherein said registration module supports the random-key method of software registration.

5.   The mechanism of claim 1, wherein said registration module supports the device-ID method of software registration.